

**TOWN OF DIGHTON
BOARDS OF SELECTMEN/HEALTH
MAY 7, 2013**

THIS MEETING WAS NOT AUDIO RECORDED NOR VIDEO RECORDED

The Board of Selectmen attended the meeting of the Dighton Finance Committee at 6:30PM on Tuesday, 7 May 2013, in the Town Hall Hearing room. Selectmen Dean Cronin and Thomas Pires were present when Finance Committee Chairman Edward Swartz called the meeting to order. Selectman Patrick Menges arrived at 6:50PM.

The Finance Committee entertained a presentation of the proposed FY2014 Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District budget by the acting superintendent, business administrator and treasurer of the District, accompanied by a Dighton member of the D-R Regional School Committee, Janice Terry.

The D-R School District proposed an assessment of \$9,247,364 to the Town for FY14, an increase of \$96,000.00, or 1%, over the assessment for FY13. For the first year of their new 3-year contract, teachers will received a 1% pay raise; for the second year, a 1.75% increase; and for the third year, the superintendent with will have to check.

The total education budget for the town of FY14, including tuition for Dighton students at Bristol-Plymouth Regional Vocational Technical High School and Bristol County Agricultural High School, is projected at \$9,478,990.00, which is \$546,714 less than had at first been asked.

After discussion, the D-R District delegation withdrew.

The Finance Committee reviewed records of budget reductions and additions booked during its departmental budget reviews and determined, using an anticipated projected FY revenue increase of \$100,000 which Chairman Swartz had discussed with the Assessors, a tentative amount by which current spending requests would exceed the limits of proposition 2 ½ ("the levy limit").

Selectmen agreed:

1. To furnish roofing prices for three special articles on the annual town meeting warrant.
2. To request revised (based on prior Finance Committee reviews) budgets as soon as possible from all town governmental department heads, for final review by the Finance Committee next week.

Also discussed was the concept of having department heads make their own budget appropriation motions at the annual town meeting. Finance Committee member Nancy Goulart suggested that a good way to reintroduce this practice would be to try it at the special town meeting likely to be convened in November, for all willing participants.

Other budgetary and town meeting warrant special articles discussed will be taken up and acted upon by the Finance Committee next week.

Selectmen withdrew at 8:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Boards of Selectmen/Health
Patrick W. Menges, Clerk

Approved by:

